

Department of  
Veterans Affairs

# MEMORANDUM

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June 30, 2004

Chief, Policy and Compliance Division

Transmittal #75 CHAMPVA Policy Manual

See Transmittal Distribution List

1. Explanation of changes and related index updates of the CHAMPVA Policy Manual and filing instructions are in the following summary:

<u>SUMMARY</u>	<u>REMOVE</u>		<u>INSERT</u>	
	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>C-S</u>	<u>Pages</u>
<u>Master Table Of Contents (MTOC)</u> , Changes policy title of Chapter 2, Section 21.1, <i>Surgical Pathology to Pathology And Surgical Pathology</i> .	MTOC	11-12	MTOC	11-12
<u>Chapter 2, Table of Contents</u> , Changes policy title of Chapter 2, Section 21.1, <i>Surgical Pathology to Pathology And Surgical Pathology</i> .	TOC-2	9-10	TOC-2	9-10
<u>Chapter 2, Section 2.8</u> , <i>Gynecomastia</i> . Amends Authority reference and under Exclusion amends regulation reference.	2-2.8	1-2	2-2.8	1-2
<u>Chapter 2, Section 4.9</u> , <i>Cardiac Rehabilitation</i> . Under Policy clarifies percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty and removes from Exclusions non hospital-based cardiac rehabilitation programs.	2-4.9	1-3	2-4.9	1-3
<u>Chapter 2, Section 6.1</u> , <i>Digestive System</i> . Amends Procedures Codes; under Policy clarifies indications for wireless capsule endoscopy for Crohn's disease; and under Exclusions removes wireless capsule endoscopy for diagnosis of Crohn's disease.	2-6.1	1-2	2-6.1	1-2

<b><u>SUMMARY</u></b>	<b>REMOVE</b>		<b>INSERT</b>	
	<b><u>C-S</u></b>	<b><u>Pages</u></b>	<b><u>C-S</u></b>	<b><u>Pages</u></b>
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 10.4,</u></b> <i>Lenses (Intraocular Or Contact) And Eye Glasses.</i> Removes 38 USC 1713 reference and TRICARE Manual reference and amends Procedure Codes.	2-10.4	1-3	2-10.4	1-2
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 10.12,</u></b> <i>Scleral Shell Prostheses.</i> Removes 38 USC 1713 reference and TRICARE Policy Manual reference; amends Procedure Codes; adds Description for a scleral shell prosthesis; and adds Exclusion for scleral shell as a cosmetic device.	2-10.12	1	2-10.12	1
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 12.4,</u></b> <i>Infantile Apnea.</i> Amends Procedure Codes; under Policy clarifies that any other conditions not described under Policy require medical review to determine medical necessity of equipment and that training on the use of the cardiorespiratory monitor or trend-event recorder may be cost shared.	2-12.4	1-3	2-12.4	1-3
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 17.10,</u></b> <i>Blood Glucose Level Monitor.</i> Under Exclusions adds the MiniMed continuing glucose monitoring (CGM) system.	2-17.10	1-2	2-17.10	1-2
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 18.17.2,</u></b> <i>Preauthorization For Residential Treatment Center (RTC) Care.</i> Removes 38 USC 1713 reference and TRICARE Policy Manual reference; under Policy Considerations amends the preauthorization time requirement to read no later than three business days prior to a planned admission; and under Exclusions adds that benefits are not payable for conditions not attributable to a mental disorder.	2-18.17.2	1-4	2-18.17.2	1-4
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 20.1,</u></b> <i>Nervous System.</i> Under Effective date adds April 1, 1994, for therapeutic embolization for treatment of meningioma and July 14, 1997, for Guglielmi Detachable Coil (GDC); amends Procedure Codes; under Description adds stereotactic implantation of depth electrodes, psychosurgery,	2-20.1	1-2	2-20.1	1-4

## **SUMMARY**

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and GDC wire application; under Policy adds coverage for medically necessary services and supplies for implantation of depth electrodes, spinal cord and deep brain stimulation, and GDC for embolizing unruptured intracranial aneurysms; under Exclusions adds deep brain treatment use of stimulators for neurological disorders; insomnia, depression anxiety, substance abuse; motor function disorders; dorsal column, deep brain electrical stimulation; dorsal root entry zone thermo-coagulation; endovascular GDC treatment for wide neck aneurysms and rupture, steroid injections for thoracic pain; extraoperative electrocortigraphy as an indicator of seizure focus; neuromuscular electrical stimulation for treatment of denervated muscles; psychosurgery, stereotactic cingulotomy; and transcutaneous, percutaneous, functional dorsal column electrical stimulation for the treatment of multiple sclerosis or other motor function disorders.

**Chapter 2, Section 21.1, Pathology And Surgical Pathology.** Changes policy title; removes 38 USC 1713 reference and TRICARE Policy Manual reference; amends Procedure Codes; under Description clarifies pathology as the medical science and specialty practice associated with all aspects of diseases; under Policy clarifies coverage of pathology and surgical pathology services; removes Exceptions; and adds Policy Considerations for the dermatologist who performs the pathology and surgical procedure and hair testing analysis to determine lead poisoning; and under Exclusions adds autopsy and postmortem; sperm penetration assay; in-vitro chemoresistance and chemosensitivity assay; hair analysis to identify mineral deficiencies; and human papillomavirus testing in the management of cervical neoplasia.

2-21.1   1

2-21.1   1-2

<b><u>SUMMARY</u></b>	<b><u>REMOVE</u> <u>C-S Pages</u></b>	<b><u>INSERT</u> <u>C-S Pages</u></b>
<p><b><u>Chapter 2, Section 26.1,</u></b> <i>Bone Density.</i>  <i>Studies.</i> Under Policy clarifies high risk factors for patients developing osteoporosis as identified by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) as the standard of care to include naturally or surgically post-menopausal women who have not been on long-term hormone replacement therapy (HRT); adds Exclusions for bone density studies for routine screening for osteoporosis and Ultrafast CT (electron beam computed tomography) to predict asymptomatic heart disease.</p>	2-26.1 1-2	2-26.1 1-2
<p><b><u>Chapter 2, Section 26.7,</u></b> <i>Magnetic Resonance (MRI) Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA) Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS).</i>  Amends Procedure Codes.</p>	2-26.7 1-5	2-26.7 1-5
<p><b><u>Chapter 2, Section 26.9,</u></b> <i>Positron Emission Tomography (PET).</i> Under Policy adds PET scans for other indications are covered when documented by reliable evidence as safe, effective, and comparable or superior to the standard care (proven).</p>	2-26.9 1-5	2-26.9 1-5
<p><b><u>Chapter 2, Section 26.12,</u></b> <i>Therapeutic Embolization.</i> Under Exclusions adds uterine artery embolization (UAE) for the treatment of fibroids in women who wish to retain childbearing capacity.</p>	2-26.12 1-2	2-26.12 1-2
<p><b><u>Chapter 2, Section 27. 2,</u></b> <i>Dermatological Procedures.</i> Under Policy Considerations corrects reference to photodynamic therapy.</p>	2-27.2 1-2	2-27.2 1-2
<p><b><u>Chapter 2, Section 27.4,</u></b> <i>Cosmetic, Reconstructive And Plastic Surgery-General Guidelines.</i> Under Policy Considerations clarifies that surgery to correct pectus excavatum is covered when the defect is more than a minor anatomical anomaly; adds penile implants and</p>	2-27.4 1-5	2-27.4 1-5

<b><u>SUMMARY</u></b>	<b>REMOVE</b>		<b>INSERT</b>	
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testicular prostheses for conditions resulting from organic origins or organic impotency; liposuction when used as a substitute for the scalpel and medically necessary, appropriate, and the standard of care; clarifies benefits relating to accidental injury; and under Exclusions adds insertion of prosthetic testicles for transsexualism; clarifies exclusion of panniculectomies, unless it is medically necessary and an integral part of the restoration of the patient's bodily function; and clarifies the penile implant procedure for impotence resulting from psychological or psychiatric reasons (non-organic); and that the beneficiary is responsible for all related services and supplies, to include any institutional costs, associated with the non-covered procedure.				
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 29.8.</u></b> <i>Laser Surgery.</i> Under Exclusions adds body sculpting and laser heart surgery involving TMR and PTRM for angina.	2-29.8	1-4	2-29.8	1-4
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 31.7.</u></b> <i>Liver Transplantation.</i> Amends Procedure Codes.	2-31.7	1-5	2-37.1	1-5
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 32.1.</u></b> <i>Ambulance Services.</i> Amends Procedure Codes and under Policy clarifies ambulance coverage and conditional requirements	2-32.1	1-3	2-32.1	1-3
<b><u>Chapter 2, Section 36.1.</u></b> <i>Male Genital System.</i> Amends Procedure Codes.	2-36.1	1-4	2-36.1	1-4
<b>Codes Index.</b> Amends index to add and delete codes referenced in policies.		3-29		3-29
<b>Subject Index.</b> Amended to update and include policies referenced in this transmittal.	D-5-6 G-1-3 P-11-12 T-1-2		D-5-6 G-1-3 P-11-12 T-1-2	

2. File this transmittal memorandum in the front of the CHAMPVA Policy Manual.

Susan Schmetzer  
Chief, Policy & Compliance

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